

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01     PARIS 37001 151223Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 IO-13 L-03  
NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 ACDA-07 MC-02  
NRC-05 /094 W

----- 009370 /14

P 151245Z DEC 76  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8000  
INFO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 37001

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PARM, NATO, FR  
SUBJ: POLADS DISCUSSION OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFERS

REFS: A. PARIS 36911. B. STATE 302693.  
C. USNATO 6727.

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: MISTRAL CONFIRMED DECEMBER 15  
THAT FRANCE WILL CONTINUE TO RESERVE ITS POSITION ON  
POLADS DISCUSSION OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFERS.  
WE RECOMMEND THAT WE LET THE ISSUE REST FOR A FEW  
WEEKS IN HOPE THAT MISTRAL MAY BE ABLE TO REVERSE  
FRENCH POSITION. END SUMMARY.

2. QUAI DISARMAMENT OFFICER MISTRAL INFORMED EMBOFF  
THAT, HAVING REVIEWED DOSSIER AND LATEST QUAI THINKING,  
HE COULD CONFIRM THAT FRANCE WILL CONTINUE TO RESERVE  
ITS POSITION ON THE POLADS DISCUSSION AS REPORTED BY  
FRENCH REPRESENTATIVES AT NATO.

3. MISTRAL WENT ON TO SAY THAT QUAI RECOGNIZES THE  
GREAT IMPORTANCE AND DIFFICULT ASPECTS SURROUNDING  
THE ISSUES OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFERS. AT THE  
MOMENT, THE QUAI DOES NOT CONSIDER NATO, A MILITARY  
ALLIANCE, TO BE AN APPROPRIATE FORUM FOR A DISCUSSION  
OF WHAT IS ESSENTIALLY A DISARMAMENT ISSUE. HE ADDED,  
THAT THE QUAI WOULD CONTINUE TO REFLECT ON ITS  
POSITION.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02     PARIS 37001 151223Z

4. MISTRAL REITERATED (AS HAD FRENCH REPRESENTATIVES AT NATO) THAT FRENCH BELIEVE DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE LIMITATIONS ON ARMS TRANSFERS COULD, IF LEAKED, BE CONSTRUED AS AN EMERGING EMBARGO AGAINST THE THIRD WORLD. IN THAT REGARD, HE REFERRED TO THE NEGATIVE REACTION BY THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES IN THE UNITED NATIONS TO THE JAPANESE CONVENTIONAL ARMS RESOLUTION, INFERRING THAT WE SHOULD TAKE A LESSON FROM THAT RECENT EXPERIENCE.

5. COMMENT: WE SPECULATE THAT THE DISCREPANCY IN FRENCH POSITIONS DEVELOPED IN PART BECAUSE MISTRAL WAS ABSENT FROM THE QUAI IN NEW YORK WHILE INSTRUCTIONS FOR FRENCH NATO DELEGATION WERE DRAWN UP. WE CANNOT BE CERTAIN THAT MISTRAL'S PRESENCE HERE WOULD HAVE LED TO FRENCH AGREEMENT TO THE POLADS DISCUSSION. HOWEVER, MISTRAL HIMSELF MUST FEEL THAT HE HAD THE RUG PULLED OUT FROM UNDER HIM AFTER TELLING SLOSS IN NEW YORK ON NOVEMBER 4 THAT GOF WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO THE DISCUSSION.

6. WE RECOMMEND THAT WE LET THIS ISSUE REST FOR A FEW WEEKS. IF WASHINGTON CONCURS, WE WOULD EXPLORE INFORMALLY WITH MISTRAL IN JANUARY THE POSSIBILITIES OF REVERSING THE CURRENT FRENCH NEGATIVE STANCE.  
RUSH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMS, SALES, REGIONAL DEFENSE ORGANIZATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976PARIS37001  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760461-0850  
**From:** PARIS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19761241/aaaabiyo.tel  
**Line Count:** 86  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 PARIS 36911  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <07 APR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <02 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** POLADS DISCUSSION OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFERS  
**TAGS:** PARM, FR, NATO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006